# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2386
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
BAN ON DICLOFENAC DRUG
Singh Shri Prabhunath

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government proposes to phase out and eventual ban of the veterinary use of Diclofenac drug;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to make available the replacement drug at affordable price to the farmers?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): Diclofenac is prescribed in veterinary practice as a non-steroid anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and is prescribed to reduce pain, inflammation and stiffness of muscles. Considering the adverse effect of the drug on vultures that scavenge on the dead carcas of animals, the Government has taken a conscious decision to phase out use of Diclofenac in veterinary practice. Government has already requested to state Animal Husbandry departments to restrict the use of Diclofenac and to reduce procuring this drug for Government stores.

(c): Alternative drugs are available in the country.